

oppressive rhetoric against the African American Community throughout the past and at the present time.

Part of the African American fight for freedom includes the struggle to create space for African American people to thrive and succeed. Throughout history in the United States, African Americans have resisted unjust persecution through brave and courageous acts including protests, sit-ins, boycotts, marches, and political rallies, to name a few. Their efforts have been successful, inspiring, and have created significant change in the values and belief systems of America. The struggle is ongoing, and there is much more to be done. It is the responsibility of every American to create an environment that supports equality and freedom for all.

This month and always, it is important that we honor America's greatest advocates for equal rights. Throughout history in Northwest Indiana, which I proudly represent, there have been many who have taken up this fight. One such individual is the Honorable Calvin D. Hawkins, Lake County Superior Court Judge, who continues a legacy of civil service to the community of Northwest Indiana. Judge Hawkins has been a civil rights activist his entire life. While still in his teens, he participated in the historic March on Washington in 1963 before embarking on his distinguished legal career. Judge Hawkins was appointed to the bench in 2007 by then Governor Mitch Daniels, and he has faithfully served with purpose, integrity, and respect. Outside of the courts, he has championed numerous causes that support equality and civil liberties for African Americans, and he has also proven himself to be a tireless advocate for the youth in his community. In 2008, Judge Hawkins launched a stay-in-school initiative, and his efforts have had a major positive impact on the lives of students throughout the area. In addition, he has served as the president of the board of directors for Indiana Legal Services, an organization that provides free legal assistance to those in need. For his noteworthy leadership and unwavering dedication to improving the quality of life for all people, Judge Hawkins is worthy of the highest praise.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in celebrating Black History Month and honoring those who fought, and continue to fight, for civil rights and justice. As we pay tribute, let us remember their profound perseverance and sacrifice in the struggle to build a better Nation, more equal and free.

RECOGNIZING BOB AND TERRY WITMER

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 6, 2023

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Bob and Terry Witmer for receiving the honor of the Dr. Bettye Myers Humanitarian Award. Terry has spent her life in North Texas. She grew up in Denton and has a nursing career that expands 20 years. In 2014, Terry oversaw the housing component of the Denton County Behavioral Health Leadership Team. Two years later, Terry became the charter appointee for the Denton County

Homelessness Leadership Team. She has been a long-time advocate for the homeless community in North Texas and has made a profound impact on improving the livelihoods of those citizens that have been affected. Both she and her husband, Bob, have been active members of the Denton Community for decades and they helped form vital nonprofits in Denton County such as The Daily Bread, which serves food to individuals in need. They have served on numerous boards of nonprofits. Bob is a board-certified tax attorney and currently serves as a professor at the University of North Texas. In 2016, he started the North Texas Low Income Taxpayer Clinic. This clinic allowed local graduate students to assist lower-income members of the community with specialized and qualified tax assistance. This provided a wonderful opportunity to members of the community and helped graduate students gain experience before applying to bigger employers. Bob has not only been a valuable part of educating the younger generation in North Texas, but he has been involved in Veterans Affairs. Terry referred Veteran clients to Bob's clinic from the Veteran Community Navigator pilot program. When Bob learned from Terry that clients of the VCN program were working in crowded, unsuitable offices, he contacted Veterans Affairs and mobilized a community effort with donations and volunteers to renovate the office into what is now known as the Denton County Veteran Center. This center provides critical and quality care to all Veterans who are in need. These actions are remarkable, yet Bob did not stop there. He went on to mobilize the community to help the United Way of Denton County create the Veterans Mental Health Annex, which expands access to mental health services for veterans. These incredible actions have not gone unnoticed. In November of 2022, they were recognized by the Board Members of the United Way of Denton for their efforts and impact on helping those affected by homelessness and mental health in their community, especially veterans. The Witmer's have invested their time and talent into serving their community. I am honored to recognize Bob and Terry's achievements today and I am humbled to share a home in North Texas with this couple of such high character. Bob and Terry's family, their community, their state, and their nation are made better by their selfless contributions and dedication to others. I thank Bob and Terry Witmer, for their excellent work, and also thank the United Way of Denton County Board of Directors for recognizing them for the Dr. Bettye Myers Humanitarian Award of 2023.

RECOGNIZING MR. GERMINIANO AND ANGELES TUBAO, OUT- STANDING CITIZENS AND BUSI- NESS OWNERS IN THE 51ST CON- GRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. JUAN VARGAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 6, 2023

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Germiniano "Gerry" Fuentes Tubao and Angeles "Angie" Marijana Tubao, outstanding citizens and business owners in the 51st Congressional District.

Mr. And Mrs. Tubao immigrated in the 1950s from the Philippines to the United States, where they met and eventually married in Worcester, Massachusetts. Mr. Tubao served in the U.S. Navy for more than 20 years as a sailor and Angie worked as a nurse at National City's Paradise Valley Hospital. They have worked in the real estate market in the 51st District for more than 60 years, establishing a legacy of property ownership, management, and development throughout the region.

Mr. Gerry Tubao is the principal founder and developer of Market on 8th, located in National City and established as South County's first ethnic-themed food hall and beer garden. Market on 8th pays tribute to National City's radiant history with its collection of original murals, artwork, and vintage photos.

Mr. Tubao is retiring from managing his family-owned company, Pacific Point Properties, and will continue to serve as a consultant. He and his wife Mrs. Angie Tubao leave a legacy of commitment and generosity to the residents of National City and the larger San Diego community.

Mr. and Mrs. Tubao have written a memoir of their history in a book called "A Land of Opportunity," which tells their story and perspective on faith, resilience, and prosperity. Their sons Joel Jon and Gene Joseph will succeed Mr. Tubao in shared leadership roles, continuing the business and serving the community in various volunteer roles.

CONGRATULATING THE BRANDON HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL TEAM ON WINNING THE 2022 MHSAA 6A VOLLEYBALL CHAM- PIONSHIP

HON. MICHAEL GUEST

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 6, 2023

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Brandon High School volleyball team and Coach Kelsa Walker on their remarkable achievement of winning the 2022 MHSAA 6A Volleyball Championship. This victory is a testament to their hard work, dedication, and commitment to the sport of volleyball.

Throughout the season, the team displayed an unwavering determination to succeed and a desire to push themselves to new heights. Their teamwork and camaraderie on the court was a true demonstration of what can be achieved when individuals come together and strive for a common goal.

I would also like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to Coach Kelsa Walker and her staff who played a critical role in the team's success. Their guidance, support, and leadership have been instrumental in helping the team reach their full potential and in inspiring the players to strive for excellence.

This state championship is a source of pride for the entire Brandon community and serves as a reminder of the importance of hard work, dedication, and teamwork. The young athletes on the Brandon High School volleyball team have set an excellent example for others to follow, and we look forward to seeing all that they will accomplish in the future.

In recognition of their achievement, I again congratulate the Brandon High School

volleyball team on its state championship win. To be recognized are Coach Kelsa Walker, Assistant Coach Laine Marler, Captain Sunni Sheppard, Reagan Jordan, Emma Levingston, Cambell Herrington, Mia Williams, Katie Thornton, Layla Mccollum, Emily Davis, Ella Owens, Hannah Jo Sullivan, Brooke Bankston, Reagan Enis, Aubrey Dale, Kallie Johnson, Sophie Warren, Anna Claire Berry, Zende Wyatt, Fisher Enis, Avery Power, Taylor Shane Parker, Ragen Lamm, Ivy Bankston, and Kadence Anding.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DOUG LaMALFA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 6, 2023

Mr. LaMALFA. Mr. Speaker, travel detainment caused missed vote. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 94.

ROB MALLEY MUST RESIGN

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 6, 2023

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker it is outrageous for President Biden to waive sanctions on nonproliferation activities involving Iran, particularly in light of Iran's continued noncompliance with its Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement. Iran is racing towards a nuclear weapon while developing intercontinental ballistic missile technology and a wholesale crackdown on its own people, yet President Biden's Special Envoy for Iran, Rob Malley, will not stop in his absurd efforts to re-enter a failed nuclear agreement with the country. Iran has already threatened to vaporize Israel and deliver a nuclear attack on America.

Malley even told the BBC last week that President Biden "never said that the possibility of an understanding with Iran was dead. In fact, we have said the exact opposite time and time again."

It is obvious that the administration is showing weakness in confronting Iran which will put our ally Israel, and others in the region, in grave danger.

America will always stand with Israel. Rob Malley must resign immediately, and President Biden must end these concessions to Iran and return to a smart policy on Iran of maximum pressure on the regime while supporting the democratic aspirations of the people.

Mr. Malley's record both in government and outside of it is concerning. As former President of the NGO, International Crisis Group (ICG), Malley strongly advocated against President Trump's maximum pressure policies and for a weak foreign policy on Iran. Even worse, as StopAntisemitism.org reported this week, some of those previously associated with ICG have gone on to teach college courses calling Israel an apartheid state and refusing to acknowledge Israel's right to exist. This is sadly a threat to Israel and American families.

My concerns are still true for on the record comments I made warning Mr. Malley almost

two years ago, on February 16, 2021, in an op-ed entitled "Failed Obama-era Policy Must Not Be Repeated" for InsideSources.com:

I am deeply concerned that we are returning to the failed policies of the Obama administration as President Biden establishes a team comprised of the same people whose work led to these problems in the first place: Robert Malley, Brett McGurk, and Colin Kahl. Robert Malley, Biden's choice for Special Envoy to Iran, has a history of troubling comments and policies regarding the Iranian Regime.

It was Malley who spearheaded Obama's failed policy of working with Iran in the region, including the failed Iran Nuclear Deal, turning a blind eye to Assad's atrocities, and working with Iranian militias in Iraq to fight ISIS. Malley's approach is backward as he believes in alienating our allies in the region Israel, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Qatar, Jordan, and Turkey, while strengthening our adversaries, Iran, the Assad regime, Hezbollah, and Houthi terrorists.

Malley argues his approach to Iran is rooted in diplomacy and preventing conflict, but his deal with Iran escalated regional tensions and increased resources available to terrorists.

May God provide his blessings for a free Iran. God bless our troops. God bless the United States of America.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DORA MARIE KNELL

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 6, 2023

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Dora Marie Knell, who passed away at the age of 98 on December 19, 2022. Dora was a political activist in her community and a champion of women's rights.

Born in Sonoma County in 1924, Dora grew up in Guerneville, CA and attended Santa Rosa Junior College where she was the first woman elected student body president. She later earned her bachelor's degree in English and Journalism from UC Berkeley. Dora became a successful small business owner in Marin County, founding her own printing business, Copy Desk, in San Rafael and starting a publishing company, ETRI. In 1989, she sold her businesses and purchased several commercial properties, managing them herself.

A dedicated political activist and feminist, Dora was committed to increasing women's participation in the political process. She was a founding member of the National Woman's Political Caucus, an Emeritus Member of the Marin Woman's Political Action Committee and elected to serve two terms on the Marin Democratic Central Committee. In addition, she also served on the Marin County Grand Jury and the Marin County Housing-Family and Child Advisory Committee. Known for her vocal activism, Dora is remembered for speaking her mind and fighting for a healthy democracy.

Along with her hard work ethic and commitment to making a positive difference for others, Dora was known for her quick-witted humor, fierce determination, and generous spirit. While she will be greatly missed, her legacy will live on through the positive impact she has had on her community and beyond.

Dora is survived by her children Gregory, Catalaine, Theodora, Valerie, Vivian, Geoffrey, Derek, and her 21 grandchildren and great-grandchildren, many of whom have carried on her passion for politics and public service.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask that you join me in extending condolences to Dora's family and many friends and in expressing my deep appreciation for her decades of public service in her community.

RECOGNIZING MS. DIANA AMADOR, OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER IN THE 51ST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. JUAN VARGAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 6, 2023

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Diana Amador, outstanding women's health advocate and community volunteer in the 51st Congressional District.

Ms. Amador is being honored for her efforts to provide greater access, bring equity to, and educate the community about women's reproductive health. She is also being recognized for many other volunteer efforts on other important issues.

As a volunteer of Planned Parenthood of the Pacific Southwest, Ms. Amador provides reproductive and sexual health education to destigmatize and encourage conversation, particularly in underserved neighborhoods where these resources are not a priority or non-existent. She has also helped Planned Parenthood with several projects, including 2022 Pride Parade and the "Bans off Our Bodies" rally in May 2022.

Ms. Amador has also led a Black/Latinx AIDS project where she provided sexual education to underserved high school students, along with information on navigating higher education. She has also worked with other communities in Southern California and Mexico to bring health fairs, offer preventative care, help address food insecurity, and provide STEM education and hands-on demonstrations.

Ms. Amador is being recognized as the 51st District Constituent of the Month in August 2022, during the Day of Action for Women's Health Equity, for her selfless commitment and her positive impact to others. She is a long-time resident of National City, and holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology with a minor in Evolutionary Medicine from the University of California, Los Angeles.

HONORING THE RIPON SOCIETY

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 6, 2023

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an important milestone in the history of The Ripon Society—the organization turned 60 this past year.

For those not familiar with the group, The Ripon Society is a public policy organization that was founded in 1962 and takes its name from the town where the Republican Party was born in 1854—Ripon, Wisconsin.